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IAC-D-74/4  
16 August 1956

FOURTH ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT TO THE IAC OF THE  
SCIENTIFIC ESTIMATES COMMITTEE  
Fiscal Year 1956

I. Authority for the Scientific Estimates Committee

The Scientific Estimates Committee was established on 14 August 1952 by DCID 3/4, pursuant to the provisions of NSCID No. 3 and the recommendation of the IAC Ad Hoc Committee to Survey Existing Arrangements Relating to Production of Scientific and Technical Intelligence (IAC-M-79, 14 August 1952).

II. Organization of the Scientific Estimates Committee

The permanent membership of the SEC consists of representatives from Central Intelligence Agency, The Joint Staff, the Departments of State, Army, Navy, and Air Force, and the Atomic Energy Commission.

The SEC has no permanent subcommittee structure. It employs ad hoc subcommittees, when needed, to discuss or report upon particular subjects under consideration.

III. Responsibilities and Accomplishments of the Scientific Estimates Committee

Pursuant to DCID 3/4, the SEC is charged with three responsibilities.\* The accomplishments of the SEC under each of its responsibilities are summarized below:

\* Atomic energy intelligence is assigned to the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee by DCID 3/4; guided missile intelligence is assigned to the Guided Missile Intelligence Committee by IAC-D-81/14, Final.

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- A. The SEC shall "integrate scientific and technical intelligence as and when required, for the production of national intelligence."

1. The SEC integrated scientific and technical intelligence contributions to seven national intelligence estimates (listed at Tab A). In addition, in collaboration with the JAEIC, GMIC, and Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC), the SEC largely completed the first comprehensive community-wide study of capabilities and trends in Soviet science and technology as the basis for a national intelligence estimate (NIE 11-6-56) on the subject. This joint study evaluates the Soviet scientific effort as a whole and the many facets thereof in relation to the total effort.

2. In addition, in fulfillment of its implicit responsibility to improve the scientific and technical intelligence contribution to national intelligence, the SEC:

a. Derived in collaboration with the JAEIC priority objectives in scientific and technical intelligence from the over-all Priority National Intelligence Objectives (DCID 4/5). The statement, approved by the IAC on 10 January 1956 and issued as IAC-D-50/8, furnishes firm guidance for the collection and production of national scientific and technical intelligence in conformity with national security policy.

b. Completed an all-source research project on Soviet potential BW installations. This coordinated effort developed valuable integrated intelligence on personalities, organizations, and activities.

c. In compliance with IAC directive (IAC-M-191), rendered a progress report to the IAC on action taken by the intelligence community to implement the recommendations of SEC 3-55, Biological Warfare Intelligence Deficiencies and Recommended Means for Their Elimination.

d. Largely completed a revision of its first community-wide estimate in the field of Soviet biological warfare capabilities. The current estimate points to [redacted]

[redacted] and assesses Soviet capabilities in other aspects of BW activity. The estimate will be published in September 1956.

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e. Largely completed a statement of general conclusions on Soviet offensive and defensive chemical warfare capabilities,

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The purpose of the agreed statement is to serve as the basis for SEC contributions to NIE's, insofar as Soviet chemical warfare capabilities are concerned. The statement was completed in July 1956.

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h. Undertook a survey of critical deficiencies in medical intelligence on the Sino-Soviet Bloc, with recommendations for appropriate remedial action. A revised report is under SEC review.

i. Prepared the scientific and technical intelligence contribution, on matters within its purview, to the IAC Annual Report to the NSC on the Status of National Security Programs.

j. Provided assistance to member agencies in planning production of scientific and technical intelligence, minimizing duplication of research effort, and identifying possible gaps in coverage, through production of the third "Annual Report of the Status of Scientific and Technical Intelligence Production Projects" and a semi-annual supplement to the preceding annual report. These reports cover on a world-wide basis programmed internal and external research projects of member agencies in this field.

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B. The SEC shall "coordinate the production of Chapter VII of the NIS"

1. The SEC overfulfilled its NIS commitment by coordinating the production of 21 Sections of Chapter VII, Scientific, and four Sections 17 of Chapter I, Brief, of the NIS. A tabulation of these contributions is at Tab B.

2. The SEC prepared, with NIS Committee approval, a detailed program for the production of NIS Chapter VII through Fiscal Year 1959 on the basis of an agreed list of Sino-Soviet Bloc and non-Bloc areas which, in its opinion, require an assessment of the fundamental aspects of scientific research and development for national planning purposes. This advance programming enables optimum collection in response to specific collection requirements and provides time for ensuing research.

C. The SEC shall "stimulate and guide interagency liaison and such working-level conferences as may be appropriate."



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3. The SEC provided intelligence advice to the IAC Standing Committee on Exchanges with regard to proposed exchanges with the USSR in certain scientific and technical fields.

IV. Objectives for the Coming Year

In accordance with D/CID 3/4, the SEC will continue to work toward the principal objective of strengthening the over-all governmental intelligence structure for the production of scientific and technical intelligence. In pursuit of this objective, the SEC will make a concerted effort to:

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A. Integrate scientific and technical intelligence for the production of national intelligence by:

1. Producing SEC contributions to national intelligence estimates in which the scientific factor merits consideration.

2. Completing production of the first comprehensive community-wide study of capabilities and trends in Soviet science and technology as the basis for an NIE on the subject.

3. Conducting post-mortems of the scientific and technical portions of certain NIE's, particularly those which are revised periodically.

4. In addition, in fulfillment of its implicit responsibility to improve the scientific and technical intelligence contribution to national intelligence, the SEC proposes to:

a. Complete revision of its published estimate of Soviet biological warfare capabilities.

b. Complete an agreed statement of general conclusions on Soviet offensive and defensive chemical warfare capabilities. The purpose of this working paper is to serve as the basis for SEC contributions to NIE's, insofar as Soviet chemical warfare capabilities are concerned.

c. Complete a coordinated program of electronic studies leading to an agreed community assessment of the operational capabilities of Soviet radars.

d. Initiate other detailed studies in scientific and technical fields as necessary to provide basic papers in support of national intelligence requirements.

e. Complete action on its survey of critical deficiencies in medical intelligence on the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

f. Review periodically the intelligence progress made in fields on which the SEC has conducted substantive surveys.

g. Provide assistance to member agencies in planning production of scientific and technical intelligence and in minimizing duplication of research effort. To this end the SEC will continue production of an annual report, with a semi-annual supplement, of the status of scientific and technical intelligence production projects in member agencies.

**SECRET**

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**B. Coordinate the production of Chapter VII of the NIS by:**

1. Integrating contributions to NIS Chapter VII, Scientific, and NIS Section 17, Scientific, in accordance with the production program proposed by the SEC for Fiscal Year 1957 and approved by the NIS Committee.

2. Continuing to project NIS Chapter VII production programming three fiscal years into the future in order to provide ample time for collection activities in response to specific requirements and for ensuing research.

**C. Stimulate and guide interagency liaison and such working-level conferences as may be appropriate by:**

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2. Contributing to improved collection of scientific and technical intelligence information through coordinated requirements, intelligence advice, and guidance in certain fields of common concern to the community.

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